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ABSTRACT

This book presents selected writings by Barbara Quint (BQ) on online searching. The selections are organized into the following chapters: (1) "The Art of Searching," including finding out what the patron wants, preparing for the search, knowing when the search is done, search styles, rules of online searching, cost issues, Quint's Laws, and medical searching; (2) "On Librarians," including what a librarian is, why people become librarians, librarians' salaries, lack of respect for the profession, professional ethics, why techies are no substitute for librarians when you want information, why searchers must educate database vendors, Quint's rules for negotiating with vendors, threats to the future of librarians, time to set new proprieties, and the future of libraries; (3) "The Internet"; (4) "Database Vendors," including bad database design, bad customer relations, listening trousers, bad marketing, and advice to vendors; (5) "Scholarly Publishing," including copyright and fair use, and user-hostile publishers; (6) "Random Musings," including censorship, democracy and citizens, danger to the information infrastructure, editing, trade publications, technology, Y2K, taking risks, truth, management, learning and memory, improving with age, books, movies, and California; (7) "Words To Live by"; (8) "BQ on BQ," including the early days, the love-hate relationship with computers, personal foibles, professional accomplishments, and philosophy of life. An interview with Quint and comments by her fans are also included. (Contains an index.) (MES)

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